- 1 CHAIR JAMES: We are going to follow the same format
- 2 that we used in the first discussion. We will have John Shosky
- 3 frame the issue, open it up for discussion, and then John will
- 4 sort of recap for us any consensus or areas of disagreement that
- 5 he has identified, as we have gone through the discussion. John?
- DR. SHOSKY: Thank you, Madam Chair.
- 7 As you know, if you have looked at this, this is more
- 8 of an outline than a chapter. And I guess I'm the person
- 9 responsible for that. I actually wrote this several weeks ago,
- 10 and as time has gone on I felt that there were some things that I
- just didn't feel as confident about as I probably should.
- So as I go through this I would like to identify some
- 13 of those areas, and let you know where I would like more
- 14 guidance, but also where there is a potential for contradictory
- 15 information in other chapters.
- I think you know the issue well enough from all of the
- 17 testimony that we have heard, and I have tried to frame the issue
- 18 at the beginning of that chapter, the historical background of
- 19 the pari-mutuel industry, the economic benefits of the industry,
- 20 and also the market's share of the industry, as well.
- 21 There is a current issue with this industry that also
- 22 branches over to greyhounds and others, and that is whether or
- 23 not the pari-mutuel industry should, in a sense, be transformed
- 24 into pari- mutuel industry and something else.
- 25 And as you will remember from the testimony at Del Mar
- 26 and elsewhere, there seems to be a division within the industry
- 27 about whether or not to make the tracks into pseudo-casinos, or
- 28 something like that.
- 29 Interestingly in the last few days this surfaced again
- 30 in the state of Maryland. It is a development that we have been

- 1 keeping a really close eye on. As you know from the newspapers
- 2 the governors brokered a deal to help the pari-mutuel industry
- 3 there by taking some of the lottery money and investing it in the
- 4 industry with the promise that the industry won't push for slots
- 5 at the tracks.
- And that issue, that whole scenario, is very
- 7 characteristic of the kinds of things that we are trying to
- 8 explore in this chapter. So there is that as one gigantic issue
- 9 in the horizon.
- 10 There is a second gigantic issue on the horizon, and
- 11 that is the one that I feel less than confident about, based not
- 12 on lack of information, but as you will note from the Internet
- 13 chapter, maybe based on too much information.
- 14 And that is the range of uses of technology in terms of
- 15 the pari-mutuel industry, and what that means. I know you are
- 16 all familiar with off-track betting. But what I'm talking about
- 17 are things like the use of this new technology where you can
- 18 actually bet in your own home, and one state is looking into that
- 19 right now with this television gaming network.
- 20 And I don't claim to be an expert on this, and I know
- 21 this is something that a great deal of time has been spent on in
- 22 the Internet chapter, in the Internet subcommittee. And I think
- 23 that the discussion that is coming out of there is much more
- 24 important than the one that I had.
- 25 As well there is issues concerning common pool
- 26 wagering, and account wagering, other issues that are branching
- 27 off into the various issues that are being covered, as well, in
- 28 the Internet chapter.

- So I think there is cross referencing, and there is the
- 2 problem of contradiction, if we are not careful, between those
- 3 two chapters.
- Finally, I would just like to, in terms of the chapter,
- 5 I would like to highlight something that I'm curious about. I'm
- 6 not quite sure how to deal with it, or even if I have to.
- 7 And that is a question that branches back into the
- 8 regulation discussion. I know that in some states the regulation
- 9 of horse racing is by a different body than casinos. And if I'm
- 10 not mistaken, which I could be, in some states one body regulates
- 11 both.
- 12 And I was wondering if there is anything that we wanted
- 13 to say about division of authority, or centralization of
- 14 regulatory authority within one state for this issue, for
- 15 lotteries, casinos, and other types of legal gaming.
- 16 COMMISSIONER LEONE: I do think that this is a tough
- 17 chapter because the most interesting policy questions about
- 18 pari-mutuel betting today are not so much about pari-mutuel
- 19 betting, but about what it will turn into.
- 20 I think John is right about developments in a few
- 21 states where they compete with other kinds of gambling, they have
- 22 been permitted to introduce new forms of gambling.
- In my own state, New Jersey, the need to keep the
- 24 racetracks competitive was used as the justification for a
- 25 referendum last year that turned out, actually, to eliminate the
- 26 previous necessity to go to referendum and introduce any kind of
- 27 gambling anywhere, besides what is already in existence.
- 28 So it has, this movement can have broad consequences.
- 29 And I also read somewhere that seven or eight states, six or
- 30 seven states are moving in the direction of this telephonic

- 1 gambling with major corporations like AT&T and news corporations
- 2 involved, which could be a dramatic development, and it is not
- 3 really an Internet, necessarily, development.
- So I think John is right, there is a lot of overlap.
- 5 But I think there will just have to be in this case. I don't see
- 6 how we can address pari-mutuel betting for the horse racing
- 7 industry without discussing these other issues, which just happen
- 8 to be at our horse racing.
- I have my own theory about why that is true, but it
- 10 could be, you know, it could be bingo that -- where we were
- 11 arguing about whether we need slot machines because not enough
- 12 people are coming to play bingo, or if we need to be able to let
- 13 people play bingo at home, so they can do it telephonically to
- 14 keep it competitive.
- So it happens to be horse racing, and I think I'm right
- 16 about that. Are there other issues? I wish Terry was here,
- 17 because he knows the most about this. Other issues in the horse
- 18 racing area that are particularly important for the Commission to
- 19 address?
- 20 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Well, I think when we look at
- 21 pari-mutuel we have to look at, obviously, the dominant form of
- 22 pari-mutuel activities in the horse racing arena. We also have
- 23 dog racing, and we also have Jai-Alai in some states.
- Nevada has a small sports pari-mutuel which is kind of
- 25 in an embryonic and experimental stages, which has not been very
- 26 successful in terms of pari-mutuel activity. I think we have to
- 27 talk about all three of the activities that are widespread in the
- 28 United States, and that would be horses, dogs, and Jai-Alai.

- I think you captured the issues correctly. One is the
- 2 technology of making the wager, and under the technology break
- down common pool wagering, which is fairly active.
- 4 Right now you can place bets at various tracks around
- 5 the United States, as long as it is legal in the state that you
- 6 are making the bet. You can probably go to a track or an
- 7 off-track facility and make a bet for a race that is in New York,
- 8 or in Florida, or in California.
- 9 Similarly in California you can go to an off-track
- 10 betting facility that is typically located, in California's
- 11 example, it is located at a state fair facility, where it is run
- 12 part of the year and has horse races.
- So the pattern breaks down, but there is a whole
- 14 variety of technology type issues to deal with account wagering,
- 15 the use of telephone lines to transmit the wagering data, and the
- 16 wagers themselves, proposals to use the Internet as a technology
- means.
- John mentioned one state, and I believe it is probably
- 19 Kentucky, that is allowing home wagering on an experimental
- 20 basis, where they are bringing signals into the home, and you can
- 21 actually do account wagering by watching some sort of device that
- 22 is interacting with the television. And that technology is
- 23 available now.
- 24 CHAIR JAMES: So would you identify technology as one
- 25 of the major issues that is --
- 26 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: I think that is one of the major
- 27 issues. And the other one is kind of keeping up with the Joneses
- 28 issues, I would characterize it, where the -- where all of the
- 29 tracks are, because of decreasing handle, and I think you can
- 30 attribute that to a number of factors, one is probably the

- 1 movement of our society from agrarian society to an
- 2 industrialized society, people don't have association with
- 3 horses, and horse racing, as they did in the past. So it is not
- 4 -- that is part of the cultural heritage.
- 5 But it is caused decreasing handles, and I think the
- 6 other is the growth of lotteries at the state level, because the
- 7 competitive aspect is the use of dollars in the wagering public.
- 8 So there has been quite a clamor amongst the operators of these
- 9 various facilities, because there are places where people go to
- 10 gamble, to engage in other forms of gambling.
- 11 CHAIR JAMES: So what do you want to say about that?
- 12 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Well, explain the situation, and
- 13 then as to what you said, and in New Mexico is a pretty good
- 14 example, where they legalized slot machines, and the basis of
- 15 legalization was that the state was compelled to enter into
- 16 compacts with tribes, and ordered the tribes slot machines, so
- 17 the racing industry said, me too. Same thing with Del Mar in
- 18 terms of the arguments.
- 19 My personal opinion is that we take care of the
- 20 Internet aspect, in terms of the Internet aspect in the report,
- 21 and prohibit using the Internet for any of these forms of
- 22 communication.
- I think the technology, and I don't see any particular
- 24 problem leaving it in place where it currently is, you can use
- 25 the technology from the states that are making the decision to
- 26 allow pari- mutuel wagering activities to continue to do common
- 27 pooling.
- Technology, usually telephone and common pooling kind
- 29 of go in side by side. I think account wagering becomes a little
- 30 bit more problematic as to whether you allow account wagering.

- 1 This would, in fact, allow you to continue -- as to pari-mutuel
- 2 wagering, this allows you to call the state of New York, have an
- 3 account with the track, via your credit card mechanism, and then
- 4 access that account over the telephone, as to whether -- to what
- 5 extent you allow that kind of activity and expansion of it.
- I'm concerned about the expansion of the activity into
- 7 the home environment. I think we need to make a statement about
- 8 that.
- 9 CHAIR JAMES: Expansion of these kinds of activities
- 10 into the home environment.
- 11 COMMISSIONER LEONE: I think, I hate to say this,
- 12 because you know, sometimes horses are better than people, and I
- 13 like the green farms, and I know racing does provide employment,
- 14 but I think if we are going to say anything about what we think
- 15 is going on with horse racing, I think we would be better off
- 16 saying that we don't believe there is any justification for not
- 17 letting it die a natural death, if that is what is going on.
- 18 This is an -- this violates most of the principles by
- 19 which we make decisions about what is appropriate activity for
- 20 government, or appropriate activity to encourage. I mean, the
- 21 market is saying, and I think the culture, so I think we have a
- 22 kind of national ADD, attention deficit disorder, and horse races
- 23 take a long time to get off, that people don't want to do this
- 24 anymore.
- 25 And to say to save it we therefore have to permit them
- 26 to do other things that we restrict in other ways, that is what I
- 27 said when the racing people were here.
- I think it is just not justified. By that standard,
- 29 any failing business could be -- could come in and make the case
- 30 to the government, you ought to let us have slot machines, you

- 1 know, we are being driven out of business by A&P, local grocery
- 2 stores. But if the local grocery stores had, or Barnes & Noble
- 3 is not the -- I like local bookstores, I like the little
- 4 bookstores that used to exist in Princeton and don't anymore.
- 5 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: "You've Got Mail."
- 6 COMMISSIONER LEONE: Now there is a Barnes & Nobles,
- 7 now there is a Borders, and there is Amazon. And if the local
- 8 bookstores would come to the states and say, you know, if we had
- 9 slot machines we could compete with Barnes & Noble, we would have
- 10 laughed.
- 11 And I think, I mean I'm sympathetic to the demise of
- 12 this culture, if you will, and to the fact that other things --
- 13 but these decisions, if you wanted to have slot machines, or
- 14 other forms of gambling, at a race track, then you ought to make
- 15 a decision that we want to legalize a casino or some other
- 16 activity on that location, if you want to favor the current
- 17 owners, fine, we favor the current owners in other ways.
- 18 And as far as this being a justification for expanding
- 19 electronic gambling, which we are generally opposed to, it makes
- 20 no sense to me. I hope other Commissioners agree, because if
- 21 they do, I think we should say that.
- 22 CHAIR JAMES: Anybody want to respond to that? John?
- 23 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: Yes, I
- 24 CHAIR JAMES: Yes. I agree with the last part of that,
- 25 but not the first part. I think that the analogy with the local
- 26 bookstores, whose demise I likewise regret, being a person who
- 27 hangs around bookstores.
- The analogy is, to put it mildly from my perspective,
- 29 inappropriate, for the simple reason that racetracks that have
- 30 pari-mutuel gambling have, by definition, been designated by the

- 1 state in which they are as a place for gambling, which is not
- 2 true of bookstores, or other places.
- 3 So I would disagree with Richard to that extent. I
- 4 share Richard's view, to this extent; that the argument that
- 5 because pari-mutuel gambling is in decline, therefore there
- 6 should be slot machines at race tracks, to me is a completely
- 7 illogical argument.
- 8 And I think that to the extent that anybody makes that,
- 9 I think it poorly serves the -- let me rephrase that. To the
- 10 extent that anybody makes that argument from the gaming industry,
- 11 I think it contradicts what I believe is the pari-mutuel
- 12 industry's best argument on behalf of itself, and that is the
- 13 unique relationship that it has with agriculture and open space
- 14 preservation, which obviously has nothing to do with the slot
- 15 machines.
- And I think the fact that there is disagreement within
- 17 the industry about the appropriateness of additional slot
- 18 machines to race tracks is emblematic of that difficulty.
- I would agree with Richard that if a state decides to
- 20 put slot machines at race tracks, they ought to face up to the
- 21 fact that they are going to legalize a casino, and that ought to
- 22 be the policy decisions that they are making.
- 23 By the same token, however, I could easily understand a
- 24 state making that policy decision, because that is an area, that
- 25 is a racetrack is a physical site which has, in most cases, long
- 26 since been satisfied as a place for gambling.
- 27 So if a state decides to expand casino gambling, my own
- 28 view is that it makes a great deal more sense to expand it in a
- 29 race track, than it does to open up some new venue.

- So I would agree that the mere argument that the fact
- 2 that pari-mutuel tracks may be failing, and therefore they should
- 3 have slots, is a nonsensical argument.
- And I would also agree that as a matter of policy if
- 5 the state wants to make a casino out of a racetrack, it ought to
- 6 realize that is what it is doing. I don't think there is
- 7 anything inappropriate about it, to the extent that the state
- 8 does want to maintain the gambling.
- 9 In fact, I think it makes a lot of sense, as I said,
- 10 because it is a place where gambling, by state policy, already
- 11 exists.
- 12 CHAIR JAMES: Jim?
- 13 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: I'm sure it won't come as a shock
- 14 to anybody that I would be strongly opposed to the casinos being
- 15 expanded into the pari- mutuel arena.
- The press media has reported, since the beginning of
- 17 this Commission, that I came here with a lack of objectivity.
- 18 And to a degree that is correct. And the reason is because of
- 19 the mail and the responses that we get at my organization,
- 20 250,000 letters and phone calls a month, from people who have
- 21 been wounded and hurt by gambling. And that is the source of my
- 22 opposition.
- 23 And in that regard the greatest concern, the reason I
- 24 accepted the assignment on this Commission, is the proliferation
- 25 of gambling across the country.
- I didn't see a lot of that kind of concern when it was
- 27 a destination type activity, where people set aside some money
- 28 and went to Las Vegas, or Atlantic City, and lost that money in
- 29 most cases, and came home and felt like they had had a vacation.

- 1 My great concern is when it is in your face, and in the
- 2 faces of your kids, and in your neighborhood, and in any kind of
- 3 expansion of that activity.
- And this would have that effect, obviously, to make
- 5 casinos out of all the pari-mutuel places. And so I would hope
- 6 that we would make a statement about that, and recommend strongly
- 7 that casinos not be put in the horse racing venue.
- 8 CHAIR JAMES: John?
- 9 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: I understand, and very much
- 10 respect Jim's overall views on the gambling industry, and its
- 11 expansion. And within that, one of the things that I think that
- 12 I have found that I very much agree with Jim on is the, again,
- 13 understanding his overall view, is the comments he just made
- 14 about the difference between somebody deciding to go to Las
- 15 Vegas, or some other destination gambling venue for the purpose
- of taking a vacation, or whatever else takes them there, and then
- 17 returning again.
- I agree with Jim there is a big difference between that
- 19 and having gambling on every street corner in America. That is
- 20 why I have previously expressed my own reservations about what we
- 21 have been calling convenience gambling, if by that we mean legal
- 22 gambling in grocery stores and things like that.
- 23 So I agree with those comments. And the only thing I
- 24 wanted to add is, again, to me if a state decides to expand
- 25 casino gambling, I think there is a lot of merit in thinking, in
- 26 a state considering pari- mutuel locations as a place to do that,
- 27 simply because those are already long-standing established venues
- 28 for gambling.

- So I think that it is quite logical. Again, I agree
- 2 with Richard's comment that the state ought to face up to what it
- 3 is doing, if it is doing that.
- 4 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: John, if I could comment? You
- 5 made reference to the fact that state agencies have approved
- 6 these facilities for that form of gambling. But they did not
- 7 have to approve, in the beginning, those facilities for casino
- 8 gambling, and I'm not sure they would have been able to get that
- 9 approval.
- I lived, for 19 years, in Acadia, California, and my
- 11 property on the south side abutted the Santa Anita racetrack.
- 12 And so I have lived in a gambling neighborhood. I mean, we have
- 13 been affected by the traffic and all the other things that were
- 14 implicit in that.
- We sure would not have wanted a casino in that
- 16 neighborhood, and they would have never, I'm confident would have
- 17 never gotten approval for that, if that is what had been
- 18 approved, if that is what they were requesting. They had gotten
- 19 approval, a long time ago, for a certain kind of betting
- 20 facility.
- 21 And so, you know, to expand it now, it is sort of -- it
- 22 can't be explained by the fact that the state has given approval
- 23 to this.
- 24 CHAIR JAMES: If you had to summarize what you think
- 25 you are hearing here, what would you say, Jim?
- 26 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: I would say I would like to see
- 27 this Commission recommend that horse racing not be expanded in
- 28 those facilities, the activity not be expanded to include
- 29 casino-type, or slot machine-type gambling.

- 1 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: I think I'm probably where John is
- 2 on the issue. It seems to me, at least, the track facilities are
- 3 places where people have historically gone to wager, and I'm not
- 4 overly concerned about the expansion of other forms of gambling
- 5 activity in those facilities.
- I do have concerns about the expansion of the activity
- 7 into the home with the technology. I do have some concerns about
- 8 the expansion OTB, betting parlors, in addition to other forms of
- 9 gambling. The track itself I'm not overly concerned about it.
- 10 COMMISSIONER MOORE: I received a phone call yesterday
- 11 morning from a fellow in Mississippi, and talked to him about
- 12 horse racing. And he was concerned about there being casinos, I
- 13 mean slot machines and turning horse racing into casinos, and
- 14 things of that nature.
- 15 And I said, well, from all this talking, and I think
- 16 that I understand you to think that -- to say that you are
- 17 against interfering with horse racing? And he says, well no, he
- 18 says, except I would like to see it be acceptable but to go into
- 19 homes.
- 20 And I said, what? I said, I can tell you right now
- 21 that this Commission, I believe that we have already voted among
- 22 ourselves, and then in public, that probably Internet gaming
- 23 should be not allowed. And that is sort of what that is to me.
- 24 But if it had to come to choose one or the other, I
- 25 would say that we do need to, I think we need to talk about how
- 26 we are going to control gaming, that is what this is about, about
- 27 the expansion of gaming, the rapid expansion.
- 28 And I don't know whether we want to turn into a big
- 29 Monte Carlo or not. But I believe that we should sort of control
- 30 the gaming going into horse racing. I definitely believe if we

- 1 had to choose, I believe, between Bill and John on that, I
- 2 definitely think that we should control it not going into homes,
- 3 electronic devices and things.
- 4 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: May I ask, for clarification,
- 5 what is your position on the issue that is on the table, with
- 6 regard to --
- 7 COMMISSIONER MOORE: If I had to vote, I would vote not
- 8 to expand horse racing facilities into casinos. That would be a
- 9 simple way to say it.
- 10 CHAIR JAMES: Adding slot machines?
- 11 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Most of them want slot machines, I
- 12 don't think that they want --
- 13 CHAIR JAMES: Let me tell you what I think I'm hearing,
- 14 and allow you to react to that. That if, in fact, a locality, or
- 15 if in fact a pari-mutuel facility, particularly horse racing,
- 16 wanted to include slot machines, or other forms of electronic
- 17 gambling, that it ought to be very clear to the public that what
- 18 they are doing is creating a casino, and a casino environment.
- 19 And that they should be prepared to accept whatever
- 20 that means, good and bad. There are those who believe that to
- 21 that extent we ought to make a recommendation that that not
- 22 happen, that that not occur.
- I hear two sentiments out there.
- 24 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: And there would be some saying
- 25 that they are not concerned about it.
- 26 CHAIR JAMES: And some saying they are not concerned
- 27 about it.
- 28 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Well, to throw another one in, in
- 29 fact I guess we have in Mississippi, not just some legislators,
- 30 certainly you would want to have a local option.

- 1 COMMISSIONER LEONE: I think just two points. One is,
- 2 I think we more agreement about the using pari-mutuel betting as
- 3 an excuse for going further on in-home gambling. But I would
- 4 like to see if we could make a little more progress where we have
- 5 a disagreement.
- And I buy the argument that if you told me I had to
- 7 support slot machines, and they could either be at the
- 8 Meadowlands, or they could be at my son's school, I would tell
- 9 you there is already a place for entertainment --
- 10 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: You are going further than the
- 11 bookstore now.
- 12 COMMISSIONER LEONE: I don't think that is an
- 13 irrelevant argument. But the reason I'm with Jim on this is as
- 14 follows. I think we are on a slippery slope. I would not be
- 15 surprised if a Commission that meets 20 years from now, if the
- 16 country doesn't slow this up, wouldn't be meeting about the
- 17 franchise wars between McGambling, and TGIF gambling, and that we
- don't wind up with this permitted in enough locations so that it
- 19 becomes routine, and then it won't be Monte Carlo. I mean, it
- 20 will be something a lot more pervasive, and a lot more predatory,
- 21 I would argue, for the average people.
- 22 So I guess I come down, where I come down on this, not
- 23 because of a hostility to pari-mutuel betting, and not because I
- 24 don't think that the argument Bill and John made are not logical,
- 25 but because I think the tide that is running towards, well you
- 26 know, we've already got this, we might as well do this, or they
- 27 have this across the border, we have to have it to compete, or
- 28 the Canadians are getting all the money, so we really need one in
- 29 Detroit, or we are losing business.

- 1 Pretty soon the exceptionalism, which justified what
- 2 currently exists, becomes a joke. There is nothing exceptional
- 3 about it, and then it becomes illogical to oppose it anywhere.
- 4 And I do think, I feel strongly about this, and I think
- 5 this goes to the kind of the theme that I hope we have in our
- 6 report, the characterization that emerges from the initial
- 7 chapter, and the concluding chapter, and the summary, is that all
- 8 of us are troubled by the continued growth of gambling, we are
- 9 becoming a nation, increasingly, of gamblers.
- We are troubled by it, as a minimum, because we don't
- 11 know enough, we don't collect enough information, we don't
- 12 understand enough. We have been unable to get enough
- 13 information.
- And moving beyond it, we are troubled by the fact that
- 15 it is being rationalized by, you know, this is just, you know,
- 16 we've already got it, so let's go here. And I know we are a
- 17 couple of decades late, and a dollar short.
- But that is why, while I understand what you are saying
- 19 that they already gamble there, I don't think that is a good
- 20 enough excuse.
- 21 CHAIR JAMES: Let me weigh on just for a second, and
- 22 then I will come back to you, Jim.
- 23 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: Okay.
- 24 CHAIR JAMES: One of the reasons that I would be
- 25 predisposed to agree with Jim and Dick on this one has to do with
- 26 the efficacy of our site visits.
- I would have to say that I was not a big fan of that,
- 28 and going out. But having been to Del Mar, and looking at the
- 29 beauty of the athletes there, both the horses and those who ride
- 30 them, and the sport of kings, and seeing all of what is involved

- 1 in this particular sport, and sometimes I think we set that aside
- 2 and forget that it is not just gambling, but there is a sport
- 3 that is involved there, as well, and people have sort of set that
- 4 aside, and see it only as a means for gambling and wagering at
- 5 this point.
- I think that there is some logic to thinking through, I
- 7 mean, I would enjoy going there just to watch the sport, separate
- 8 and apart from any gambling. And if you have to have wagering on
- 9 the sport, do you have to bring in the slot machines as well?
- I mean, I think it changes the nature of it, I think it
- 11 changes the atmosphere, I think it changes a lot about what
- 12 happens there, and all gambling isn't equal in my eyes, and how
- 13 that happens, and what kind of environment it creates.
- 14 And looking at, I certainly cannot say to that
- 15 particular industry how they want to, necessarily, conduct their
- 16 business. But I do think that I have it well within my purview
- 17 to express a concern about what this would do to what they have
- 18 made a legitimate argument for, is a wonderful sport, and I would
- 19 hate to see what that does to that sport.
- 20 Jim?
- 21 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: I agree strongly with what you
- 22 say. I have a very good friend, in fact I was with him last
- 23 week, you know him too, who has raised horses, and has been in
- 24 the science, not just the sport, but the science of horse
- 25 breeding and so on.
- 26 And I would -- well, I've already said it, I'm not
- 27 going to repeat it, except to say that it is my understanding
- 28 that this Commission essentially came together, was motivated in
- 29 Congress, primarily, because of the proliferation of gambling
- 30 across the country.

- Some people have referred to it as tantamount to what
- 2 they have in Georgia, called kudzu, where that vine is growing
- 3 over every green thing in that state, and gambling is spreading
- 4 like that across the country.
- 5 We have an opportunity here to make a statement about
- 6 that. This is one place, as Richard said, I think, to try to
- 7 stop it, or at least recommend that it be curtailed.
- 8 CHAIR JAMES: John?
- 9 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: I would associate myself with
- 10 your remarks, Kay, with respect to horse racing, and say no to
- 11 the -- but a significant statement of the pari-mutuel industry
- 12 that agrees with that description, and the conclusion, they don't
- 13 want to have slot machines or other forms of gambling at the
- 14 tracks.
- I don't want to belabor that particular issue, but I do
- 16 want to comment to something that Richard said a moment ago, he
- 17 made a much broader point about what he said he hopes is the
- 18 theme of the report.
- I have a little bit different view of what the theme of
- 20 the report ought to be, and it pertains to this issue, as well,
- 21 more broadly. I don't think it is radically different, but it is
- 22 somewhat different, because I share, as a citizen, I share some
- 23 of the concerns that I think everybody in the Commission shares
- 24 about the pell mell expansion of gambling in so many forms, to so
- 25 many places.
- 26 But I personally do not think that it is of any
- 27 particular utility, or relevance, for the Commission to attempt
- 28 to make sort of a micro level recommendations about whether this
- 29 form of gambling ought to go over there, or whether it ought to
- 30 go down there, or somewhere else.

- I do think there is some logic in making
- 2 recommendations about gambling that has not yet overwhelmed us,
- 3 but could, like Internet gambling, particularly because of the
- 4 relationship to the home.
- I do think there is some logic in making
- 6 recommendations that relate to convenience gambling, because it
- 7 is in my view a different type of gambling. But I think that the
- 8 theme, the broader theme of the report ought not be, you know,
- 9 there is too much gambling around, so people should stop
- 10 expanding gambling.
- I think the theme of the report ought to be, here is
- 12 what we know about the implications of expanding gambling, and
- 13 here is what is not yet known, and needs to be looked at.
- 14 Because I believe that a sort of prohibitionist
- 15 mentality about gambling clearly is not going to work, I think
- 16 history demonstrates that. And I think that facts are extremely
- 17 important.
- I believe that to the extent that this Commission in
- 19 its report, and in our call for future kinds of both information
- 20 and research to be made more broadly available, can make a
- 21 significant contribution to having states and localities make
- 22 more intelligent decisions about these things, or more -- let me
- 23 rephrase that, more informed decisions.
- 24 Because I agree with the proposition that a lot of
- 25 decisions are made at the state and local level that are not well
- 26 informed by information. I think that would be extremely useful,
- 27 and I would hope that is the theme as opposed to saying, you
- 28 know, there is too much of this, so let's not have this kind, and
- 29 that kind, and the other kind.

- 1 That is not going to get us anywhere. I think that and
- 2 50 cents will get us a cup of coffee, it will go in some shelf
- 3 somewhere, and nobody will ever think about it again.
- Because those are just, really, at the end of the day,
- 5 matters of opinion. I do think that to the extent that we can
- 6 place the concrete facts about the implications of different
- 7 kinds of gambling, and the implications of the expansion of
- 8 gambling, and the information that is presently known about that,
- 9 that would be a significant contribution.
- 10 And to the extent that we can say, not remotely enough
- 11 is known, and that is a problem, and here is what ought to be
- 12 done about that, I think that is a contribution.
- 13 And I would much more prefer a theme of that kind than
- 14 some sort of kind of prohibitionist approach that in the end is
- 15 really only everybody's opinion, because we don't know enough.
- 16 COMMISSIONER LEONE: I actually just want to say that I
- 17 should have been more disciplined in my comments, because I think
- 18 it is probably a mistake for us to try to thresh out now the
- 19 over-arching themes that might be in our introduction or
- 20 conclusion, or the summary, because I think if we do that, we
- 21 will never get through the chapters.
- 22 So I know it is my fault for making a provocative
- 23 statement, and --
- 24 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: But I enjoy provocative
- 25 statements. That is what we are here for.
- 26 CHAIR JAMES: But at the appropriate time.
- 27 COMMISSIONER LEONE: -- get through these chapters, and
- 28 them maybe return to this.
- 29 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: But if you get into every chapter,
- 30 you are going to get into the overriding theme.

- 1 COMMISSIONER LEONE: Yes, well, that is part of my --
- 2 (General laughter.)
- 3 CHAIR JAMES: You have to love it.
- 4 COMMISSIONER LEONE: It is a slippery slope.
- 5 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: And I might add, he is very good
- 6 at it.
- 7 CHAIR JAMES: You only have seven minutes left, by the
- 8 way, John before lunch. You have seven minutes left.
- 9 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: For what?
- 10 CHAIR JAMES: Because we have not had one meeting where
- 11 --
- (General laughter.)
- 13 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: I don't think that is a record,
- 14 because we started later. First time before lunch.
- 15 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: There is another recommendation
- 16 that I would like to see us make.
- 17 CHAIR JAMES: Well, can we summarize that last
- 18 discussion?
- 19 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: Okay.
- 20 CHAIR JAMES: Just the last and then -- it seems to me,
- 21 in looking at what John is going to take out of this discussion,
- 22 that -- and please object if I'm not -- I know you will; that
- 23 there was a strong sentiment that, you know, against the
- 24 expansion of casino type gambling, and racetracks.
- 25 However, if a community or a facility decides to do
- 26 that, it should be clear that that is exactly what they are
- 27 doing, something along those lines. And not make a
- 28 recommendation as to whether they should or shouldn't.
- 29 Does that accurately --

- 1 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Well, it is kind of a variety of
- 2 sentiment within the Commission as to the use of racetrack
- 3 facilities for other forms of gambling. And I think you are
- 4 going to find, if you structure the recommendation, you are going
- 5 to find unanimity in terms of moving that activity into the home.
- 6 CHAIR JAMES: Yes. But that was not a recommendation,
- 7 that was just a comment on how the discussion went this morning.
- 8 We are not recommending anything.
- 9 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Well, but he is going to have to
- 10 write some --
- 11 CHAIR JAMES: Yes, but we are going to tell him what
- 12 the recommendation -- the only recommendation I have heard thus
- 13 far is the expansion into the home.
- 14 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: No, that is not what I said.
- 15 CHAIR JAMES: You want a recommendation?
- 16 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: Yes. John, to use your term, a
- 17 prohibitionist approach. We don't have the power to prohibit
- 18 anything, because we have no force in law in what we do,
- 19 obviously.
- 20 But I think that we will be rather wimpy in the end of
- 21 this thing if we don't take a position on some of the things we
- 22 have seen, and we have learned, and found from the research and
- 23 the other things, the testimony, and this is one where I don't
- 24 think we necessarily have to have a consensus, or unanimity on
- 25 everything that comes out of this Commission.
- I think some of these things ought to come down to a
- 27 vote, when we have to come to that point, but this is one of
- 28 them.

- 1 CHAIR JAMES: Yes, what we are trying to do is identify
- 2 these areas where this is going to happen. So far this is the
- 3 first one I have heard this morning.
- 4 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: And if you get to a vote
- 5 situation, how does that get translated into the report? Does it
- 6 get translated into four members, five members of the Commission
- 7 believe that, and four members --
- 8 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: Every other Commission I have
- 9 been on the majority has dictated how the report would be listed,
- 10 and --
- 11 CHAIR JAMES: Okay, let's set that aside and --
- 12 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: -- people disagree they can write
- 13 a minority report, or a statement. In fact, you know --
- 14 CHAIR JAMES: Well, let's set that aside and mark that
- 15 as an area of disagreement that we will figure out how to resolve
- 16 as we work through it.
- 17 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: But I think there is going to be
- 18 some general agreement in this area. I think there is going to
- 19 be agreement in terms of expansion into home wagering.
- 20 CHAIR JAMES: No, he is only marking this area about
- 21 expansion of casino-type gambling in pari- mutuel establishments.
- 22 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Well, then I would be even
- 23 narrower than pari-mutuel establishments. I would narrow it
- 24 simply to the track, just to the track, because I don't think it
- 25 is appropriate to, likewise, expand it into OTB areas, which does
- 26 have some -- in states like New York.
- 27 CHAIR JAMES: So that is an area of disagreement that
- 28 we have identified, and we will set it over here, and figure out
- 29 what we want to do with it, okay?

- 1 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: Do you agree that we should not
- 2 necessarily try to recommend only the things that we have
- 3 unanimity on? I hope that is not where we are headed.
- 4 CHAIR JAMES: No, no. We will just figure out how to
- 5 do that.
- 6 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: A point of clarification on what
- 7 was meant by Bill and others in talking about a potential
- 8 recommendation or a consensus against use or expanding, with
- 9 respect to both OTB type things, and also with respect to home
- 10 wagering.
- I know that when the, and you would know this history
- 12 better than me, Bill. If I have it wrong please correct me. It
- 13 is my impression that the federal law prohibiting legal sports
- 14 gambling grandfathered in the four states in which it is legal,
- 15 although two of them don't practice it, as I understand it.
- 16 As I understand it there are a number of states that
- 17 have OTB parlors already, and there are I believe eight states
- 18 that have some sort of account betting, which can be from the
- 19 home, I believe. It is not as I understand it, home television
- 20 style, but nevertheless you can bet from your home in eight
- 21 states, I think it is.
- 22 So when you were talking about expanding, were you
- 23 talking about a consensus, or a potential recommendation that
- 24 says there shouldn't be any more of this, or are you actually
- 25 talking about roll-backs?
- 26 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Well, let me, it is kind of a
- 27 complicated question. The federal law, the Anti-Sports Wagering
- 28 Act, or the -- I guess it is the Amateur Sports Protection Act,
- 29 does not apply to racing activity.

1 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: I know that. I was making a

- 2 comparison.
- 3 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: So we are simply talking about
- 4 racing activity. Now the state of the federal law is that you
- 5 can do common pool wagering for horses between states that
- 6 authorize it and have legal pari-mutuel wagering activities, so
- 7 you can make a bet from New York into California and vice versa,
- 8 because they are legal jurisdictions. You cannot make a wager
- 9 from Utah into New York, because it is not a legal jurisdiction.
- 10 OTB which we were talking about, really takes two forms
- 11 and two iterations. In the state of California you have
- 12 off-track betting parlors at county fairs, which holds
- 13 agricultural meets and hold racing meets, so they actually run
- 14 meets, there is a physical track. You have OTB activities in
- 15 other states, like New York, where you actually have a betting
- 16 parlor that is not at the site of the track.
- I can see a consensus in terms of a recommendation in
- 18 terms of -- well, where I come down is I'm not offended by
- 19 gambling activities at a track, that is a historical place where
- 20 gambling has occurred. I am concerned about gambling activities
- 21 at an OTB station, for instance in New York, turn that little OTB
- 22 parlor into a slot arcade.
- 23 Louisiana has a similar availability of OTB stations
- 24 that, you know, because there is no physical presence of a track.
- 25 So, you know, those facilities not be allowed to expand with
- 26 other forms of gambling, convenience gambling right in the
- 27 neighborhood. People don't have to journey to them, because they
- 28 are within the neighborhood environment.

- 1 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: I see. You were arguing that
- 2 other forms of gambling should not be layered onto the OTB -- I
- 3 got you.
- 4 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Unless there is a site --
- 5 CHAIR JAMES: Unless there is a what, Bill?
- 6 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: The site is on a track. If the
- 7 OTB facility is at a track, you can go to one of the agricultural
- 8 fairs in California, one of the agricultural tracks like -- I'm
- 9 trying to think of the ones up in northern California, Big
- 10 Meadows is not an agricultural track, but Big Meadows, or the
- 11 fairgrounds, and you can make a wager into another track, but you
- 12 are at a facility that offers horse racing in terms of the
- 13 immediate -- and in terms of the wagering activity.
- 14 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: And then what were you
- 15 suggesting with respect to home betting, or account wagering?
- 16 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Well, account wagering I haven't
- 17 really completely sorted through how you handle those items. I'm
- 18 concerned about it because account wagering is very difficult to
- 19 control because you don't know when the account is established as
- 20 to who is establishing the account. You have some problems with
- 21 probably adolescents and --
- 22 CHAIR JAMES: But then I hear you express some serious
- 23 concern --
- 24 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Yes, I do have concerns about
- 25 account wagering.
- 26 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: If it is okay, Kay, can I just
- 27 ask Mr. Hickey or somebody else, how many states permit account
- 28 wagering now?
- 29 AUDIENCE MEMBER: There are eight.

- 1 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: So I guess my question is, just
- 2 for our future consideration, is --
- 3 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: And those eight vary as to whether
- 4 they allow intra-state, or inter-state, there is a distinction
- 5 there, also.
- 6 AUDIENCE MEMBER: And some, for example New York, it is
- 7 done by the State Agency, it has been done for over twenty years.
- 8 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: As a practical matter I don't
- 9 see any future in recommendations in trying to get rid of what
- 10 exists. I would suggest we distinguish between what exists and
- 11 what, you know, expansions of those opportunities in the rest of
- 12 the country.
- 13 The only thing I was saying about sports betting is
- 14 that there was a grandfather approach taken there. I understand
- 15 it is a different issue.
- 16 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: And I would restrict the
- 17 technology. I think I heard Richard talk about restricting the
- 18 technology. And when you restrict the technology you have
- 19 crippled the gambling industry, it seems if you indicate they
- 20 can't use computers to do the services ten years ago, you had to
- 21 use an abacus, the industry would be dead today.
- 22 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: For the record, I would favor a
- 23 rollback.
- 24 CHAIR JAMES: You know, I see several layers of what
- 25 we, as a Commission, will be able to do. Some will be
- 26 recommendations, some will be conclusions that we are drawing
- 27 based on the research data that is in. And then the other area
- 28 is concerns. We may feel we don't have the data to support it,
- 29 for whatever reasons, but based on our observations, and based

- on, you know, some of the things that we have seen, we may have
- 2 concerns.
- 3 So I want to make the distinction about that. As an
- 4 example, in looking at account wagering, I don't think it is
- 5 inappropriate to say that there may be some -- that the
- 6 Commission expressed some concerns about, and make a statement
- 7 following that, without making a specific recommendation.
- 8 So that we can go on the record as having a very
- 9 strong, or very serious concerns. There will be the areas,
- 10 however, where we make a recommendation. And part of what has to
- 11 happen is as we go through this, we have to identify the areas
- 12 that we can't come to any consensus on, and that we need to
- 13 debate, and take to a full vote and decide how we handle them.
- So I don't want anybody to feel frustrated, as we go
- 15 through this, because we are going to turn up those areas where
- 16 we cannot reach consensus, and then we have to decide what to do
- 17 with them.
- 18 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: And when we do that, how will the
- 19 minority viewpoint be reflected in the report.
- 20 CHAIR JAMES: And how will the minority viewpoint be
- 21 reflected. And there are several different ways that that can
- 22 happen, and we just want to delay that discussion until the end.
- I think when you get people that have a -- I want to
- 24 get a struggle with it a little bit before we jump to we will put
- 25 that in our minority report. Let's struggle with it to see if we
- 26 can reach consensus. And if we can't, at the end of the process,
- 27 then we will deal with that.
- 28 COMMISSIONER LEONE: I think that is right. We should
- 29 be trying to convince each other before we decide, well, I know
- 30 what I'm going to say, so I will --

- 1 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: But at some point he is going to
- 2 have to start drafting, and it should depend upon what he drafts.
- 3 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: May I also just clarify? There
- 4 is a difference between a minority report where a certain number
- 5 of people go together and write something that is counter to what
- 6 the majority wants.
- 7 There is also the mechanism that occurred on the
- 8 pornography Commission where each person was asked to write a
- 9 two-page reaction to the whole effort. And you can put anything
- 10 in it that you want, unedited.
- 11 CHAIR JAMES: And we used that format in another
- 12 Commission that I served on, and it was very helpful. But I
- 13 really don't want to have that discussion right now.
- 14 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: Notwithstanding that definition,
- 15 if I had to pick today between those two approaches, I would
- 16 prefer the statement approach to the minority report approach,
- 17 myself.
- But I think Kay and Richard you are absolutely right.
- 19 I think we should force ourselves to try to agree with as much as
- 20 we can agree upon, because it is very easy not to agree.
- 21 CHAIR JAMES: It is.
- 22 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: The simplest thing in the world.
- 23 CHAIR JAMES: And as long as you are insisting upon
- 24 having this discussion I might as well tell you what my
- 25 preference would be, and that would be to be a statement instead
- 26 of a minority report by each individual Commissioner, and the
- 27 reason for that is that I don't think anymore than you can get
- 28 consensus from the majority on everything could you get consensus
- 29 from a minority on everything.
- 30 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Well, that is true.

- 1 CHAIR JAMES: And so there are going to be so many
- 2 crosses where -- I mean, there is no minority, no block of
- 3 individuals that share a common set of objections, even.
- And so I really would prefer to have us struggle a
- 5 little bit and figure out what we are going to do at the end.
- 6 Having said that, John, would you summarize where you
- 7 think we are right now?
- 8 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: I never got that one short --
- 9 CHAIR JAMES: You didn't, and I apologize. Please go
- 10 ahead.
- 11 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: I, having again lived in a
- 12 neighborhood with pari-mutuel betting, I would like to see us
- 13 recommend that children under 21 not be allowed in those
- 14 facilities.
- 15 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: I would support that.
- 16 CHAIR JAMES: I would not have a problem with that at
- 17 all.
- 18 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: In the facility, or not making the
- 19 wager.
- 20 CHAIR JAMES: In the facility.
- 21 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: In the facility.
- 22 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: I'm sorry, I wouldn't support
- 23 that. I would certainly support the wagering issue.
- 24 CHAIR JAMES: I don't know enough about how that works.
- 25 Is it separated so that you have to go to a different location --
- 26 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Typically you have a betting
- 27 window that you have to go to and make your wager.
- 28 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: In the vicinity of where kids
- 29 are, teenagers, anyway.
- 30 CHAIR JAMES: That is a sport for adults.

- 1 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Watching the race? Betting I
- 2 clearly agree with you, there should be restriction on the
- 3 wagering itself. Do you mean the activity?
- 4 CHAIR JAMES: But that exists, doesn't it?
- 5 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: So you wouldn't have children
- 6 being able to even look at a horse race, they could watch it on
- 7 TV but they couldn't watch it at the track?
- 8 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: I don't really know what the
- 9 practice is across the country. I would like to know whether or
- 10 not betting is permitted for those under 21.
- 11 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: That is typically the case. I
- 12 believe if you take a look, the AGA had a summary chart in terms
- 13 of age laws that you are going to find in pari-mutuel activities,
- 14 that a lot of states allow you to make wagers at 18, 18 and
- 15 above.
- 16 CHAIR JAMES: Would you, well let's start with what I
- 17 think we concluded. Would you agree on no bets below 21?
- 18 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: I would agree with that.
- 19 CHAIR JAMES: Well, let's start there, and then go from
- 20 that to 21 to be --
- 21 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: Again, this comes out of my own
- 22 experience. But the -- one of the fun things to do in the high
- 23 schools in that area was to ditch a day and have a group of kids
- 24 spend that day at the track, and that bothers me a great deal.
- 25 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Well, I don't know, that is so
- 26 broad. You are talking about an activity that is televised, you
- 27 are talking about an activity where you have 4-H is involved, the
- 28 county fair activities where there is some pari-mutuel wagering.
- 29 I cannot support that, that just seems to me to be kind of
- 30 overboard.

- 1 CHAIR JAMES: Would you support no school age children
- 2 being allowed in the premises during school hours?
- 3 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: I hadn't thought about that issue.
- 4 CHAIR JAMES: Let's start there and --
- 5 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: How do you police that, though?
- 6 CHAIR JAMES: Well, there are truancy laws already that
- 7 exist --
- 8 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Well, say you have a 4-H activity
- 9 and you are out at the track showing your sheep or something.
- 10 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: Which is very common.
- 11 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Which is very common. Well, I
- 12 would have to think about it. I don't think you are going to
- 13 pick me up on that one.
- 14 CHAIR JAMES: Jim, do you want to --
- 15 COMMISSIONER DOBSON: Obviously this is one of those
- 16 issues where we have to simply say where is the majority of the
- 17 Commission.
- 18 CHAIR JAMES: Well, I want you to make your best
- 19 argument, because you may be able to get him.
- 20 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Not on this one.
- 21 CHAIR JAMES: So I have identified two areas, this is
- 22 the second one. Do you want to weigh in on this one, John?
- 23 COMMISSIONER LEONE: I just think that John, he should
- 24 probably, when he summarizes include the things -- I don't mean
- 25 right this minute, necessarily to be that inclusive, but when you
- 26 do this include the things where there was no unanimity, but
- 27 indicate some Commissioners were interested in a recommendation
- 28 in the following form.
- 29 And then when we come, when we get to the, you know, to
- 30 the serious business, we are missing three people, and in really

- 1 trying to see where the people are, we don't have to reintroduce
- 2 all these points.
- 3 CHAIR JAMES: Well, what I'm trying to do, just so you
- 4 know, is identify these issues, and then they will be agenda
- 5 items for discussion, and perhaps even vote. And I have
- 6 identified two so far. So these issues are not getting lost,
- 7 they are being set aside, as they are identified.
- Valerie, can I ask you as a staff person to be responsible for taking these
- 9 down, and identifying these issues so that we will have a
- 10 complete list?
- John, summarize it, won't you?
- DR. SHOSKY: First, that this chapter should include
- 13 horses, dogs, and Jai Alai. Second, that the two major issues,
- 14 broadly, that need to be discussed are technology issues and the
- 15 issue entitled keeping up with the Joneses.
- And from that we segue into, I think, a consensus
- 17 recommendation that gambling should not be expanded into the
- 18 home.
- 19 CHAIR JAMES: Do you all want to make sure you are
- 20 catching this, because if you don't --
- 21 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: I'm listening.
- DR. SHOSKY: There was some discussion about the issue
- 23 concerning whether or not we should let this die a natural death.
- 24 And my guess is that there needs to be some discussion about that
- 25 in the chapter.
- 26 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: Well, that issue is whether you
- 27 let it die a natural death, or whether you strangle it by not
- 28 allowing it to use technology, not allowing people to use rubber
- 29 to make tires.

- 1 CHAIR JAMES: I'm not sure I want to hear that language
- 2 in the report.
- 3 COMMISSIONER LEONE: I think that everybody in this
- 4 Commission agrees that permitting gambling is an exception to the
- 5 general rule. Nobody in this Commission that I have heard, there
- 6 are plenty of people who may feel this way, but I haven't heard
- 7 anyone on this Commission say there should be no restrictions on
- 8 gambling. Everybody says there should be some restrictions on
- 9 gambling.
- In each case where the restrictions are relaxed there
- is an argument that people have found compelling. Some more than
- others, but people have found it compelling.
- The point I was making about this, I would put it this
- 14 way, I don't think that the argument that the pari-mutuel
- 15 business is suffering economically justifies an additional
- 16 exception for them for other forms of gambling on those
- 17 locations.
- That is my personal view, that has to do with my larger
- 19 view that I expressed about willy nilly more exceptions, and
- 20 where we are headed. And I think that is all I was saying.
- 21 And I think everybody would agree with the first part,
- 22 on the second part people are going to say, no this is an
- 23 exception that really justifies it.
- 24 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: I misinterpreted it, because I
- 25 thought I heard that you wanted to restrict their access to some
- 26 of the technology that is available.
- 27 COMMISSIONER LEONE: No, that was in the context, I
- 28 thought, of whether we were going to talk generally about more
- 29 ability to gamble from home. And I presume that is in the
- 30 Internet chapter.

- 1 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: In terms of that particular --
- 2 Internet, probably in the home chapter, here you are talking
- 3 about it in a different context, you are talking about also in
- 4 the terms of the use of telephonic communications, not on the
- 5 Internet communications.
- 6 CHAIR JAMES: Correct. John?
- 7 DR. SHOSKY: Some Commissioners urged that there should
- 8 not be slot machines at race tracks. If the state decides to
- 9 introduce slot machines at race tracks, then as a public policy
- 10 issue and discussion they should fess up to what it is that they
- 11 are doing, and admit that what they are creating are legalized
- 12 casinos.
- 13 CHAIR JAMES: And I'm sure that your wordsmithing will
- 14 make it far more eloquent than that.
- 15 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: And I have to believe that is
- 16 going on, currently. I think most of the interest groups are
- 17 involved in fighting the expansion of gaming are pretty aware of
- 18 those activities. I have seen enough of these campaigns like in
- 19 Maryland, where it is local, and in Virginia.
- 20 CHAIR JAMES: I don't know if I would agree with that.
- 21 John?
- DR. SHOSKY: Again, there are comments about
- 23 convenience gambling which I will put in the convenience gambling
- 24 discussion.
- 25 There are comments about the theme of the report, which
- 26 I will wait for another time. Then there are comments about what
- 27 I have just loosely labeled study, that as you indicated, at the
- 28 end Madam Chair, that there are places where we will have
- 29 findings about what we know and what we don't know.

- And one of the things that we have to highlight, and
- 2 evidently give presumption, or heavy weight to, are the things
- 3 that we don't know, and specifically identify what those things
- 4 are, in this chapter and elsewhere.
- 5 More discussion about not turning off- track facilities
- 6 into casinos. And then there was the final issue that we just
- 7 talked about, where there seems to be consensus that in terms of
- 8 wagering people who are under 21 should not be allowed to wager
- 9 at race tracks.
- 10 There are some Commissioners who are interested in
- 11 restricting access to race tracks by people who are under 21.
- 12 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: How will we use some of the data
- 13 that we have under the NORC survey? Because if I remember the
- 14 data there was an element in terms of pathological gamblers that
- 15 they indicated is much higher incidence of patrons to race
- 16 tracks. And I have asked Dr. Kelly for the cross-tabs so we can
- 17 take a look and maybe see if that has any relevance to the --
- 18 CHAIR JAMES: And if it does it should appear in --
- 19 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: It should appear in the various
- 20 functional chapters.
- 21 CHAIR JAMES: Well, one of the questions that I have,
- 22 as we talk about the overall structure, is the use of charts, and
- 23 the use of data, and information throughout the body of the
- 24 report.
- 25 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: I would just point out that my
- 26 recollection is that that data is from the patron survey, and I
- 27 think somewhere, I think it is crystal clear that there is not
- 28 enough of a sample to reach that conclusion.
- 29 DR. KELLY: Madam Chair, I concur with that. I believe
- 30 the number was 24 patrons, and so I agree with that point.

- 1 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: How about control points, did we
- pick people for race track activity?
- DR. KELLY: I don't remember whether the telephone
- 4 survey included those who were classified as pathological
- 5 gamblers who claimed to gamble only at race tracks. I don't
- 6 recall.
- 7 COMMISSIONER BIBLE: In any case we are going to get
- 8 all the cross tabs?
- 9 DR. KELLY: Yes, today.
- 10 CHAIR JAMES: Good. Okay.
- 11 COMMISSIONER WILHELM: Let the record reflect that I
- 12 didn't take -- notwithstanding your seven minute offer, I'm going
- 13 to make it all the way to lunch.
- 14 CHAIR JAMES: I just don't feel right calling for
- 15 lunch, so I will do it for you. We have to protect jobs.
- Having said that, I'm going to see if we can come back
- 17 together, instead of 1:15, if we can make it 1:30 for lunch.